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DPC 55

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS AND RADIO NEWS BRIEFING, MONDAY,
MARCH 25, 1963, 12:35 P.M.

MR. WHITE: Gentlemen, my apologies. I'm a little late today.

You should have two releases, the first No. 151, the text of Bob Manning's statement before the House Committee; secondly, No. 152, the current international conferences and meetings in which the US Government is participating.

I'd like to remind all of you that there will be the annual State Department Awards Ceremony at 2:30 this afternoon in the auditorium. We have a release on this coming momentarily. The Secretary is expected to attend and to make some extemporaneous remarks and present the awards.

That is all I have, gents.

Q: Mr. Linc, do you have any comment now on the Korean political situation? The US policy has been under review now concerning the bid made by the government to continue in power for four more years. Do you have anything to say on that situation?

A: Well, the military junta's efforts--effort,

Q Linc, what effect do we hope this statement would have on the situation in Korea?

A We express our hope right at the end of the statement there, that a formula will be worked out acceptable to the nation as a whole.

Q Linc, there is a report that Jupiter missile bases in Italy and Turkey are going to be withdrawn next week. Do you have anything on that?

A Well, on that particular situation--first let me say that Polaris submarines will be on station in the Mediterranean this year, with the first one expected to arrive about the first of April.

Q April?

A The first of April. Dismantling of Jupiters will start after the first submarine is on station.

Q Where would it be based, Linc, in the Mediterranean?

[Laughter]

A I don't know.

Q I see no reason for laughing. I didn't hear the answer to that, I'm sorry.

A I don't know where the Soviet submarines are based, but ours will be at Holy Loch and in the United States.

Q But they would be in the Mediterranean?

A I said the first would be in the Mediterranean in April.

Q Thank you.

Q Linc, excuse me--

A Yes?

Q I thought I heard you say they would be based in Holy Loch and the United States.

A That's right.

Q Well, the ones that are stationed in the Mediterranean will be based at Holy Loch?

A I said based. Berthing facilities is what we are talking about there.

Q In other words, there will be no berthing facilities in the Mediterranean?

A Not at the moment, no.

Q Linc, would you know what Mr. Ball wanted to see the German Ambassador about this morning?

A No. I'm sorry, I have had no fill on that.

Q Can we come back to this Polaris business for a minute?

A Yes.

Q You said the first would be there around the first of April. Do you have a schedule for the others?

A No, I do not.

Q Well, do you know how many there will be?

A I think it's public knowledge. Three.

Q Three all told?

A Yes.

Q Can we assume that the other two will go on reasonably soon after?

A I would think so. You better cross-check with Navy on that.

Q Thank you, Mr. White.

Q Wait a minute. I have one more. Linc, can you say anything about the US having talks with Britain over the sale of steel pipes to Russia?

A I have seen the story on this. I have nothing on it.

[Whereupon, at 12:44 p.m. the briefing was closed.]